

*“America is facing an economic crisis greater than any since the Great Depression, with millions American jobs lost in the last 13 months,” said Rep. Luján. “The American Recovery and Reinvestment is an historic investment in our economy and in the people of our country, building the foundation we need to start to reverse the economic decline. I will continue to work with local leaders, elected officials and constituents to maximize the impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the people of New Mexico.”*

- [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#)
- [New Mexico Congressional Delegation Recovery Guide](#)
- [Economic Recovery Team](#)
- [Ben's Speech on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#)
- [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Resources and Links](#)

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

During this time of economic difficulty, Ben's top priority is to get our economy back on track. One of the most important tools to achieve this goal is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which Ben supported and President Barack Obama signed into law in early February. This is an important step, but we still have hard work ahead of us to put our country back on the right path.

The Recovery Act will make us more globally competitive and energy independent, transform our economy for long-term growth, and give approximately 95 percent of American workers an immediate tax cut.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will help the people of New Mexico by:

- Creating or saving an estimated 22,000 jobs in New Mexico and 7,500 in the 3rd Congressional District over the next two years in a wide range of industries from renewable energy to construction to health--with over 90 percent of job creation occurring in the private sector. [Source: White House estimate based on Romer and Bernstein, "The Job Impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan", January 9, 2009.]
- Providing a Making Work Pay tax cut of up to \$800 for 684,000 New Mexican workers and their families; 95 percent of Americans will receive a tax cut. [Source: White House estimate based on IRS Statistics of Income]
- Making 36,000 New Mexican families eligible for a new American Opportunity Tax Credit to make college more affordable, establishing a \$2,500 tuition tax credit for middle-class families. [Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of U.S. Census data]
- Investing \$258 million in New Mexico's state fiscal stabilization fund, keeping teachers, police officers, and health care workers on the job and providing vital services. [Senate Appropriations Committee, 2/13/09]

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will help transform our economy by:

- Creating more than an estimated 1 million jobs through promoting clean and efficient American energy, innovation, and technology.
- Enacting the most significant expansion in tax cuts for low- and moderate-income households ever.
- Enacting the largest investment increase in our nation's roads, bridges and mass transit systems since the creation of the national highway system in the 1950s.
- Doubling renewable energy generating capacity over three years, creating enough renewable energy to power 6 million American homes.
- Lowering health care costs and improving care by computerizing medical records, which will create hundreds of thousands of jobs and help those who cannot afford health care during these tough times.

### New Mexico Congressional Delegation Recovery Guide

*"Our top priority is to help get our economy back on track. That is why we worked to improve and pass the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, a historic \$787 billion economic recovery package that will invest over \$1.8 billion in New Mexico. For our state, this funding could not come at a more critical moment. Unemployment is rising. Home prices are declining. New Mexico communities, struggling to maintain critical jobs and services, are faced with nearly \$575 million in state revenue shortfalls this year alone. Funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is intended to help reduce the length and severity of this recession for New Mexico families," the New Mexico Congressional delegation said .*

The New Mexico Congressional delegation developed an integrated guide that includes information about the programs and funding opportunities available to individuals, communities and businesses in New Mexico through the American Recovery and Investment Act. Click [here](#) to read the guide.

### Economic Recovery Team

Ben established an Economic Recovery team to manage local implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and to assist local governments and constituents with the Recovery Act. Ben named three key staff members to the team. Chris Neubauer will lead the team as the Economic Recovery Coordinator. Patrick Duran and Tracy West are Economic Recovery Liaisons on the team. The team is the first point of contact for public and private officials and constituents interested in learning about the benefits of the Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act. For more information, call Ben's Economic Recovery team (505) 994-0499.

### Ben's Speech on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Ben gave a speech to the New Mexico state legislature on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act after it was signed into law. He described the legislation's impact on New Mexico and its contribution to rebuilding the economy in the state. Take a look.

### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Resources and Links

[The Obama Administration](#)

[State of New Mexico](#)

[Department of Agriculture](#)

[Department of Education](#)

[Department of Energy](#)

[Department of Defense](#)

[Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[Department of Homeland Security](#)

[Department of Housing and Urban Development](#)

[Department of the Interior](#)

[Department of Justice](#)

[Department of Labor](#)

[Department of State](#)

[Department of the Treasury](#)

[Department of Transportation](#)

[Department of Veterans Affairs](#)

[Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Federal Highway Administration](#)

[General Services Administration \(GSA\)](#)

[Internal Revenue Service](#)

[Small Business Administration](#)

[Social Security Administration \(SSA\)](#)

[United States Agency for International Development \(USAID\)](#)